

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 4, 2011.

Hon. BRIAN SANDOVAL,
Governor, State of Nevada, State Capitol, Carson City, NV.

DEAR GOVERNOR SANDOVAL, I hereby submit my resignation as United States Representative of Nevada's Second Congressional District, effective Monday, May 9, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

Serving Nevada's Second Congressional District has been one of the greatest honors of my life. As you know all too well, no state has been harder hit by the recession than Nevada. There is a lot of hard work ahead to get our state and nation moving in the right direction. Nevadans across our state have been struggling with job loss, high gas prices, and foreclosures. There is no question that our nation needs to change the way we do business if we are going to get our economy back on track and get Nevadans working again. These issues will remain my top priorities in the United States Senate.

I look forward to our continued work together to promote policies that strengthen our economy and improve Nevadans' quality of life.

Sincerely,

DEAN HELLER,
Member of Congress.

□ 1400

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1081

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1081.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

HOOR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at noon on Tuesday, May 10, 2011, for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE MEXICO-UNITED STATES INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group:

Mr. PASTOR, Arizona

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF ENHANCED INTERROGATION TECHNIQUES IN WAR AGAINST TERROR

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, as we have appropriately celebrated the successful mission to take out Osama bin Laden, there has been one discordant note sounded in the Halls of Congress, and that is with the testimony of the Attorney General of the United States. There still is a reluctance on the part of this administration to recognize the major contribution made to this country by those who were involved in enhanced interrogation techniques which resulted in part of the information, the intelligence information, that allowed us to find Osama bin Laden.

The reason I bring this up is this administration has said in the past that certain types of enhanced interrogation techniques equaled torture. I do not believe that to be true, and for that to remain on the record subjects those men and women who have done a tremendous job for this country, which has resulted in one of the successful missions, in addition to other missions that have taken place in our war against terror, subjects them to the cloud of prosecution in the future and the accusation that they involved themselves in forms of conduct that would be defined as torture by some of the highest officials in the United States. That is something that we cannot allow to happen.

When we have the CIA Director indicate that we did receive information as a result of some of these activities, it seems to me that we are duty bound to clear up the record and to thank those men and women, not condemn them.

FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE NEEDED FOR TEXAS

(Mr. CANSECO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CANSECO. Mr. Speaker, Texas is burning. Since November, Texas has experienced over 9,000 wildfires that have burned over 2 million acres and destroyed more than 400 homes and several thousand structures. These fires continue to rage, threatening the lives and property of Texans.

The State of Texas and local governments, along with our firefighters and our other first responders, have done a magnificent job of responding to the threats of these wildfires. However, the resources of the State and the local government have been stretched responding to fires we have already had; and the threat of wildfires continues. Without additional assistance, the capacity to respond to future wildfires will be greatly diminished. That is why Governor Perry requested a major disaster declaration and Federal disaster assistance. Unfortunately, President Obama denied this request.

Mr. Speaker, many in Texas and in my district can't seem to understand the President's decision. Governor Perry intends to appeal the President's decision, and I hope the President will reconsider.

REMEMBERING THOSE LOST IN THE APRIL STORMS

(Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring everyone's attention to the extraordinarily destructive storms that have raged throughout the South and particularly in my home State of Arkansas. In my home State, we have seen flooding and tornado damage wreak havoc on local communities. We have seen the lives of our loved ones tragically taken before their time.

Last week, I personally surveyed the damage in central Arkansas in my district. In the little town of Vilonia, a town north of Little Rock, 70 homes were destroyed and an additional 50 were damaged. I toured Little Rock Air Force Base and saw the damage to structures there and the damage to our C-130s that are so important to our national security. In Hot Springs Village, I saw the damage left in the wake of the latest round of the storms that claimed the life of an 8-month-old boy there. He is one of the 22 Arkansans killed by the storms in April.

I ask my colleagues and all Americans listening today to keep the families affected by this tragedy in their thoughts and prayers.

RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO TRAINED AT THE NAVAL STA- TION GREAT LAKES

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, when the President sought to take out America's most wanted and dangerous enemy, he called on an elite team of the United States Navy to execute the mission.

The 10th District of Illinois is home to an important Navy base. The Naval Station Great Lakes is the first stop of every single Navy recruit. It is likely that those who executed the mission in Pakistan on Sunday started their training at this base. Today, I want to recognize those who got the job done and the outstanding training provided at Naval Station Great Lakes.

I applaud the continued heroic efforts of our Armed Forces and intelligence personnel, and particularly those who under the cover of a dark Pakistan night dropped into a fortified compound to give justice to millions of people around the world.

Mr. Speaker, our fight against those who want to destroy democracies around the world continues, but today we can press ahead as confident as ever in our Nation's ability to confront and triumph over evil.

MARKING THE HOLOCAUST DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

(Ms. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House